

Subject: Dam beaver complaint

Title CONSTRUCTION VIOLATION

Joke text This is an actual letter sent to a man named
Ryan DeVries by the Michigan

Department of Environmental Quality, State of
Michigan. This guy's response

is hilarious, but read the State's letter before you
get to the response

letter.

SUBJECT: DEQ File No.97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20;
Montcalm County

Dear Mr. DeVries:

It has come to the attention of the Department of
Environmental Quality

that there has been recent unauthorized activity on
the above referenced

parcel of property. You have been certified as the
legal landowner and/or

contractor who did the following unauthorized activity: Construction and

maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring

Pond.

A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A

review of the Department's files shows that no permits have been issued.

Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation

of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and

Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being

sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated.

The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially

failed during a recent rain event, causing debris and

flooding at

downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently

hazardous and cannot be permitted. The Department therefore orders you to

cease and desist all activities at this location, and to restore the stream

to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams

from the stream channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later

than January 31, 2003.

Please notify this office when the restoration has been completed so that a

follow-up site inspection may be scheduled by our staff. Failure to comply

with this request or any further unauthorized activity on the site may

result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action.

We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter.

Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David L. Price, District Representative

Land and Water Management Division
